

# Averages, Weighted Averages, Median, and Mode

For questions in the Quantitative Comparison format (“Quantity A” and “Quantity B” given), the answer choices are always as follows:

- (A) Quantity A is greater.
- (B) Quantity B is greater.
- (C) The two quantities are equal.
- (D) The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

For questions followed by a numeric entry box , you are to enter your own answer in the

box. For questions followed by fraction-style numeric entry boxes 


, you are to enter your answer in the form of a fraction. You are not required to reduce fractions. For example, if the answer is  $\frac{1}{4}$ , you may enter 25/100 or any equivalent fraction.

All numbers used are real numbers. All figures are assumed to lie in a plane unless otherwise indicated. Geometric figures are not necessarily drawn to scale. You should assume, however, that lines that appear to be straight are actually straight, points on a line are in the order shown, and all geometric objects are in the relative positions shown. Coordinate systems, such as  $xy$ -planes and number lines, as well as graphical data presentations such as bar charts, circle graphs, and line graphs, are drawn to scale. A symbol that appears more than once in a question has the same meaning throughout the question.

1. H usain and D ino have an average of \$20 each. D ino wins a cash prize, which raises their average to \$80. Assuming no other changes occurred, how many dollars did D ino win?

\$

2.

Janani is 6 centimeters taller than Preeti, who is 10 centimeters taller than R ey.

Quantity A

Quantity B

The average height of the three people

The median height of the three people

3. The average of Joelle’s five quiz scores is 88. What score does Joelle need to get on a sixth quiz to raise her average for all six quizzes to 90?

(A) 88

- (B ) 94
- (C ) 98
- (D ) 100
- (E) 102

4.

The average of  $x$  and  $y$  is 55. The average of  $y$  and  $z$  is 75.

Q uantity A

$$z - x$$

Q uantity B

$$40$$

5. In Clarice's class, each test weights her overall grade average three times as much as each quiz does. If Clarice scored 88 and 94 on two quizzes, respectively, and she scored 90 on the only test, what is her current overall grade average?

6. What is the average of  $x$ ,  $x - 6$ , and  $x + 12$ ?

- (A )  $x$
- (B )  $x + 2$
- (C )  $x + 9$
- (D )  $3x + 6$
- (E) It cannot be determined from the information given.

7. The average of four numbers is 12. If the set of numbers includes 9, 11, and 12, what is the fourth number?

- (A ) 12
- (B ) 14
- (C ) 16
- (D ) 20
- (E) 24

8.

For a set of 30 integers, the average is 30 and none of the integers are greater than 60.

Q uantity A

The range of the set

Q uantity B

$$30$$

9. If  $x$  is negative, what is the median of the list 20,  $x$ , 7, 11, 3?

- (A ) 3
- (B ) 7
- (C ) 9
- (D ) 11
- (E) 15.5

10.If the average of  $n$  and 11 is equal to  $2n$ ,then w hat is the average of  $n$  and 3 ?

- (A ) 4
- (B ) 8
- (C ) 11
- (D ) 14
- (E) 19

11.

**Q uantity A**

The average of  $x - 3, x, x + 3, x + 4$ , and  $x + 11$

**Q uantity B**

The m edian of  $x - 3, x, x + 3, x + 4$ , and  $x + 11$

12.John buys 5 books w ith an average price of \$12.If John then buys another book w ith a price of \$18,w hat is the average price of the 6 books?

- (A ) \$12.50
- (B ) \$13
- (C ) \$13.50
- (D ) \$14
- (E) \$15

13.Every w eek,R enee is paid 40 dollars per hour for the first 40 hours she w orks,and 80 dollars per hour for each hour she w orks after the first 40 hours.H ow m any hours w ould R enee have to w ork in one w eek to earn an average of 60 dollars per hour that w eek?

- (A ) 60
- (B ) 65
- (C ) 70
- (D ) 75
- (E) 80

14.

A t a certain school,the 118 juniors have an average final exam score of 88 and the 100 seniors have an average final exam score of 92.

**Q uantity A**

The average final exam score for all of the juniors and seniors com bined.

**Q uantity B**

90

15.Last year a car dealership sold 640 cars over the entire year.This year,the dealership has sold an average of 32 cars per m onth for the first four m onths.W hat is the average num ber of cars sold per m onth over the entire 16-m onth period?

- (A ) 43
- (B ) 44
- (C ) 48
- (D ) 51
- (E) 64

16.

Q uantity A

Q uantity B

The average (arithm etic m ean) of  $x,y,$  and  $z$       The average (arithm etic m ean) of  $0.5x,0.5y,$ and  $0.5z$

17.B alpreet’s quiz scores in English are 80,82,79 and 84.H er quiz scores in H istory are 90 and 71.W hat is the sum of the scores she w ould need to get on her next English quiz and her next H istory quiz to raise each class’ quiz score average to 85?

- (A ) 109
- (B ) 192
- (C ) 194
- (D ) 198
- (E) 218

18.A ron’s first three quiz scores w ere 75,84,and 82.If his score on the fourth quiz reduced his average quiz score to 74,w hat w as his score on the fourth quiz?

19.Paco’s practice test scores are 650,700,630 and 640.W hat score on the 5th test w ould result in an average score of 660 for all 5 tests?

20.A quiz is scored from 0 to 110.JaeH a has 5 quiz scores: 90,95,88,84,92.W hat does the average on her next 2 quizzes need to be in order to bring her average for all 7 quizzes up to 95?

21.

The integer ages of the three children in the C hen fam ily range from 2 to 13,and no tw o children are the sam e age.

Q uantity A

Q uantity B

The average age of all three children in the C hen fam ily      10

22.

Four people have an average age of 18,and none of the people are older than 30.

Q uantity B

23.

Set A consists of 5 numbers, which have an average value of 43. Set B consists of 5 numbers.

Q uantity A

The value of  $x$  if the average of  $x$  and  
the 5 numbers in Set A is 46

Q uantity B

The average of Set B if the average of the 10  
numbers in Sets A and B combined is 52

24. The average of 7 numbers is 12. The average of the 4 smallest numbers in this set is 8, while the average of the 4 greatest numbers in this set is 20. How much greater is the sum of the 3 greatest numbers than the sum of the 3 smallest numbers?

- (A) 4
- (B) 14
- (C) 28
- (D) 48
- (E) 52

25. If the average of  $a, b, c, 5$ , and 6 is 6, what is the average of  $a, b, c$ , and 13?

- (A) 8
- (B) 8.5
- (C) 9
- (D) 9.5
- (E) It cannot be determined from the information given.

26. The average (arithmetic mean) of 8 numbers is 42. One of the numbers is removed from the set, and the resulting average (arithmetic mean) of the remaining numbers is 40. What number was removed from the set?

- (A) 26
- (B) 28
- (C) 50
- (D) 54
- (E) 56

27. The average of 13 numbers is 70. If the average of 10 of these numbers is 90, what is the average of the other 3 numbers?

- (A) -130
- (B)  $\frac{10}{3}$
- (C) 30
- (D) 90
- (E) 290

28. Town A has 6,000 citizens and an average (arithmetic mean) of 2 radios per citizen. Town B has 10,000 citizens and an average (arithmetic mean) of 4 radios per citizen. What is the average number of radios per citizen in both towns combined?

Give your answer as a fraction.

29.

Joe’s quiz scores are 80,82,78,77,and 83.D ave’s quiz scores are 60,90,and 80.

**Q uantity A**

The score Joe w ould need on his next quiz to  
increase his overall average score to 82.

**Q uantity B**

The score D ave w ould need on his next quiz  
to increase his overall average score to 82.

30.Fiber X C ereal is 55% fiber.Fiber M ax C ereal is 70% fiber.Sheldon com bines an am ount of the tw  
o cereals in a single bow l of m ixed cereal that is 65% fiber.If the bow l contains 12 ounces of  
cereal,how m uch of the cereal, in ounces,is Fiber X ?

- (A ) 3
- (B ) 4
- (C ) 6
- (D ) 8
- (E ) 9

31.The average population in Tow n X w as recorded as 22,455 during the years 2000–2010,inclusive.H  
ow ever,an error w as later uncovered: the figure for 2009 w as erroneously recorded as 22,478,but  
should have been correctly recorded as 22,500.W hat is the average population in Tow n X during  
the years 2000–2010,inclusive, once the error is corrected?

L iquor B rand	P ercent A lcohol
D elicate Flow er	4%
Fine and D andy	6%
M onster Sm ash	12%

32.B ased on the chart above,w hich of the follow ing statem ents m ust be true?

Indicate all such statem ents.

- ☐ A cocktail m ade w ith one part Fine and D andy and tw o parts M onster Sm ash (and no  
other ingredients) w ill be m ore than 9% alcohol.
- ☐ A cocktail m ade w ith 11.5 gram s each of all three liquors (and no other ingredients) w ill be m ore than

7% alcohol.

- ☐ A cocktail made with one part Delicate Flower, two parts Fine and Dandy, and one part alcohol-free mixer (and no other ingredients) will be more than 7% alcohol.

33.

$$S_n = 3n + 3$$

Sequence  $S$  is defined for all integers  $n$  such that  $0 < n < 10,000$

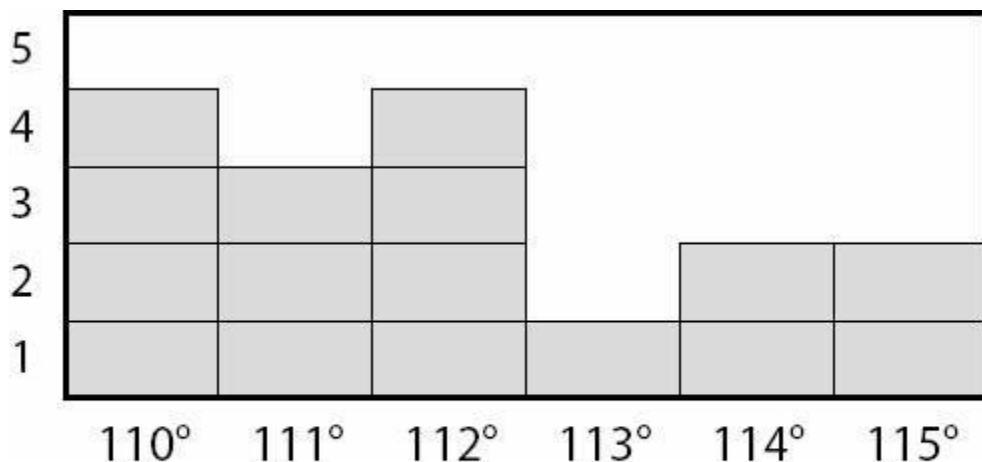
Quantity A

The median of sequence  $S$

Quantity B

The mean of sequence  $S$

34. The bar graph below displays the number of temperature readings at each value from a sample, measured in degrees Fahrenheit. What was the average temperature reading?



degrees Fahrenheit

35. In a certain dance troupe, there are 55 women and 33 men. If all of the women are 62 inches tall and all of the men are 70 inches tall, what is the average height of the dancers in the troupe?

inches

36. Set  $A$  : 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 Set  
Set  $B$  : 6, 8, 10, 12, 14

For the sets of numbers above, which of the following statements are true?

Indicate all such statements.

- ☐ The mean of Set  $B$  is greater than the mean of Set  $A$  .  
☐ The median of Set  $B$  is greater than the median of Set  $A$  .  
☐ The standard deviation of Set  $B$  is greater than the standard deviation of Set  $A$  .  
☐ The range of Set  $B$  is greater than the range of Set  $A$  .

37. Three people have \$32, \$72, and \$98, respectively. If they pool their money then redistribute it among them, what is the maximum value for the median amount of money?
- (A) \$72
  - (B) \$85
  - (C) \$98
  - (D) \$101
  - (E) \$202

38.

Weekly Revenue Per Product Category at Office Supply Store X

Product Category	Weekly Revenue in Dollars
Pens	164
Pencils	111
Legal Pads	199
Erasers	38
Average of Categories above	128

- According to the chart above, the average revenue per week per product category is \$128. However, there is an error in the chart; the revenue for Pens is actually \$176, not \$164. What is the new, correct average revenue per week per product category be, in dollars?
- (A) 130
  - (B) 131
  - (C) 132
  - (D) 164
  - (E) 176

39.

A set of 7 integers has a range of 2, an average of 3, and a mode of 3.

Quantity A

The third number in the set when the numbers are arranged in ascending order

Quantity B

The fifth number in the set when the numbers are arranged in ascending order

40.

Set S consists of the first 500 positive, even multiples of 7.

Quantity A

The average of the set

Quantity B

The median of the set

41.



The average of  $3x$ ,  $x$ , and  $y$  is equal to  $2x$

Q uantity A

$2x$

Q uantity B

$y$

42. The average age of the buildings on a certain city block is greater than 40 years old. If four of the buildings were built two years ago and none of the buildings are more than 80 years old, which of the following could be the number of buildings on the block?

Indicate all such numbers.

- ☐ 4  
☐ 6  
☐ 8  
☐ 11  
☐ 40

43. Four students contributed to a charity drive, and the average amounts contributed by each student was \$20. If no student gave more than \$25, what is the minimum amount that any student could have contributed?

\$

44.

The average of 7 distinct integers is 12, and the least of these integers is -15.

Q uantity A

The greatest that any of the integers could be

Q uantity B

84

45.

Set  $N$  consists of the first 9 positive multiples of 3

Q uantity A

The average of the first and last terms in the set

Q uantity B

The average of the third and seventh terms in the set

46. The average of 15 consecutive integers is 88. What is the greatest of these integers?

47.

The average of 5 integers is 10 and the range of the 5 integers is 10.

**Q uantity A**

**Q uantity B**

The m edian of the 5 integers

10

48.

3 num bers have a range of 2 and a m edian of 4.4

**Q uantity A**

**Q uantity B**

The greatest of the num bers

5.4

# Averages, Weighted Averages, Median, and Mode Answers

1. **\$120.** If the two people had an average of \$20 each, they held a sum of  $2(\$20) = \$40$ . After Dino wins a cash prize, the new sum is  $40 + p$  and the new average is 80. Plug into the average formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Average} &= \frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms}} \\ 80 &= \frac{40 + p}{2} \\ 160 &= 40 + p \\ 120 &= p \end{aligned}$$

Dino won \$120.

2. **(B)**. Pick numbers that agree with the given height constraints. Rey is the shortest person, and if Rey is 100 cm tall,

$$\frac{100 + 110 + 116}{3} = 108.67$$

Preeti is 110 cm tall, and Janani is 116 cm tall. The average height is (rounded to nearest 0.01). The median height is the middle height, which is 110. Quantity B is greater.

Alternatively, note that Preeti's height is the median. Preeti's height is closer to Janani's than to Rey's. Since the average of Janani's and Rey's heights would be midway between those heights, and Preeti's height is higher than that middle, the median is greater than the average.

3. **(D)**. There are two ways to solve this question. The first involves using the average formula:

$$\text{Average} = \frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms}}$$

If the average of Joelle's 5 quiz scores is 88, plug these numbers in and solve for the sum of the scores:

$$\begin{aligned} 88 &= \frac{\text{Sum}}{5} \\ 88 \times 5 &= \text{Sum} \\ 440 &= \text{Sum} \end{aligned}$$

Use the average formula again to solve for the sixth quiz score,  $x$ , keeping in mind that the new average is 90 and the new number of quizzes is 6:

$$90 = \frac{440 + x}{6}$$

$$90 \times 6 = 440 + x$$

$$540 = 440 +$$

$$x \quad x = 100$$

The other way to solve the question is by using the concept of residuals, or differences from the average. If 5 scores of 88 need to be brought up to the new average of 90, there are  $5(2) = 10$  points needed in the sum. So the sixth quiz score should be high enough to "give away" those 10 points to the sum, while still retaining 90 points for itself. That number is 100.

$$\frac{x + y}{2}$$

4.(C). Since the average of  $x$  and  $y$  is 55,  $\frac{x + y}{2} = 55$ , and  $y + z = 150$ .

$$\frac{y + z}{2}$$

Since the average of  $y$  and  $z$  is 75,  $\frac{y + z}{2} = 75$ , and  $y + z = 150$ .

Stack the two equations and subtract to cancel the  $y$ 's and get  $z - x$  directly:

$$\begin{array}{r} z + y = 150 \\ - (x + y = 110) \\ \hline z - x = 40 \end{array}$$

5.90.4. To account for the fact that tests weigh the grade three times as much as quizzes, include each test score as if it were three identical quizzes. So, 2 quizzes and 1 test =  $2 + 3 = 5$  quizzes.

Sum

$$\text{Average} = \frac{\text{Number of Terms}}{\text{Sum}}$$

$$\text{Average} = (88 + 94 + 90 + 90 + 90)/5$$

$$\text{Average} = 452/5 = 90.4$$

6.(B). The average formula is just as easily applied to algebraic expressions as arithmetic ones:

$$\text{Average} = \frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms}}$$

$$\text{Average} = \frac{(x) + (x - 6) + (x + 12)}{3}$$

$$\text{Average} = \frac{3x + 6}{3} = x + 2$$

The correct answer is (B).

7.(C). There are two ways to solve this question. The first involves using the average formula, plugging in 12 for the average and 4 for the number of terms.

$$\text{Average} = \frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms}}$$

$$12 = \frac{\text{Sum}}{4}$$

$$48 = \text{Sum}$$

The sum of the three known terms is  $9 + 11 + 12 = 32$ . If the total of all four numbers must be 48, then the missing fourth number is  $48 - 32 = 16$ .

The other way to solve uses the concept of residuals, or differences from the average. The average of 12 is the "balance point" of the four numbers. The 9 is -3 from this balance point on the number line, 11 is -1 from this balance point, and 12 is on this balance point, because it's equal to the average. Thus, the three known terms are weighted  $-3 + (-1) = -4$  from the average, so the fourth term needs to be  $12 + 4 = 16$  in order for the set to balance.

8. **(D)**. There are infinite possibilities for a set of 30 integers less than or equal to 60, with an average of 30. For instance:

Example 1: The set consists of fifteen 0's and fifteen 60's  
In this example, the range is 60 and the average is 30.

Example 2: The set consists of fifteen 14's and fifteen 16's.  
In this example, the range is 2 and the average is 30.

The range could be greater or less than 30.

9. **(B)**. The easiest way to start thinking about a question like this is to plug in a value and see what happens. If  $x = -1$ , the list looks like this when ordered from least to greatest:

-1, 3, 7, 11, 20

The median is 7. Because any negative  $x$  you pick will be the least term in the list, the order of the list won't change, so the median will always be 7.

10. **(A)**. This question can be quickly solved with the average formula:

$$\text{Average} = \frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms}}$$

$$2n = \frac{n+11}{2}$$

$$4n = n+11$$

$$3n = 11$$

$$n = \frac{11}{3}$$

$$\frac{13}{3}$$

Since  $n = 11/3$ , the average of  $n$  and  $\frac{13}{3}$  is:

$$\frac{\frac{11}{3} + \frac{13}{3}}{2} = \frac{\frac{24}{3}}{2} = \frac{8}{2} = 4$$

$$\frac{11}{3} \quad \frac{13}{3} \quad \frac{12}{3}$$

Or just notice that the midpoint between  $\frac{11}{3}$  and  $\frac{13}{3}$  is  $\frac{12}{3}$ , just as 12 is the midpoint between 11 and 13. The average is  $\frac{12}{3} = 4$ .

11.(C). To find the median of the numbers, notice that they are already in order from least to greatest:  $x - 3, x, x + 3, x + 4, x + 11$

The median is the middle, or third, term:  $x + 3$ .

Now find the average of the numbers:

$$\frac{(x - 3) + (x) + (x + 3) + (x + 4) + (x + 11)}{5} = \frac{5x + 15}{5} = x + 3$$

The median and the mean are both  $(x + 3)$ .

12.(B). First, calculate the cost of the first 5 books.

$$\text{Sum} = (\text{Average cost})(\text{Number of books}) = (\$12)(5) = \$60$$

$$\text{Total cost of all 6 books} = \$60 + \$18 = \$78$$

$$\text{Total number of books} = 6$$

$$\text{Average} = \$78/6 = \$13 \text{ per book.}$$

13.(E). Let  $h$  = number of hours Renee would have to work. The average rate Renee gets paid is equal to the total wages earned divided by the total number of hours worked. Renee earns \$40 per hour for the first 40 hours, so she makes  $40 \times 40 = \$1,600$  in the first 40 hours. She also earns \$80 for every hour after 40 hours, for additional pay of  $\$80(h - 40)$ . The total number of hours worked is  $h$ .

$$\frac{1,600 + 80(h - 40)}{h} = 60$$

$$1,600 + 80h - 3,200 = 60h$$

Now isolate  $h$ :

$$80h - 1,600 = 60h$$

$$-1,600 = -20h$$

$$80 = h$$

You could also notice that 60 is exactly halfway between 40 and 80. Therefore, Renee needs to work an equal number of hours at \$40 per hour and \$80 per hour. If she works 40 hours at \$40 per hour, she also needs to work 40 hours at \$80 per hour.

14. **(B)**. This is a weighted average problem. Because the number of juniors is greater than the number of seniors, the overall average will be closer to the juniors' average than the seniors' average. Since 90 is halfway between 88 and 92, and the weighted average will be closer to 88, Quantity B is larger.

It is not necessary to do the math because this is a Quantitative Comparison question with a very convenient number as Quantity B. However, you can actually calculate the overall average by summing up all 218 scores and dividing by the

$$\frac{118(88) + 100(92)}{118 + 100} = 89.83...$$

number of people:

15. **(C)**. The dealership sold 640 cars last year. This year, the dealership has sold 32 cars per month for the first 4 months of this year, which is a total of  $4(32) = 128$  cars. Now, if you're thinking that there's a difference between selling an average of 32 cars per month and selling exactly 32 cars per month, you're right. However, it won't make a difference to the total sum of cars sold over the whole period, which is all that is needed to calculate the average.

Over the entire 16-month period, the dealership sold  $640 + 128 = 768$ . Now use the average formula to calculate the answer:

$$\text{Average number of cars sold per month} = \frac{\text{Sum (= \# of cars sold)}}{\text{Number of Terms (= \# of months)}} = \frac{768 \text{ total cars}}{16 \text{ months}} = 48 \text{ cars/month}$$

$$\text{Average number of cars sold per month} = \frac{768}{16} = 48$$

$$\frac{x + y + z}{3}$$

16. **(D)**. The average of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  is  $\frac{x + y + z}{3}$ . Calculated similarly, the average of  $0.5x$ ,  $0.5y$ , and  $0.5z$  is exactly half that. If the sum of the variables is positive, Quantity A is greater. However, if the sum of the variables is negative, Quantity B is greater. If the sum of the variables is zero, the two quantities are equal.

17. **(C)**. For Balpreet to raise her English average to 85:

$$\frac{80 + 82 + 79 + 84 + x}{5} = 85$$

$$425 + x = 425$$

$$x = 0$$

For Balpreet to raise her history average to 85:

$$\frac{90 + 71 + y}{3} = 85$$

$$161 + y = 255$$

$$y = 94$$

$$x + y = 100 + 94 = 194$$

The correct answer is (C).

18. **55.** To find Aron's fourth quiz score:

$$\frac{75 + 84 + 82 + x}{4} = 74$$

$$241 + x = 296$$

$$x = 55$$

19. **680.** To find the score Paco would need on his 5th test:

$$\frac{650 + 700 + 630 + 640 + x}{5} = 660$$

$$2,620 + x = 3,300$$

$$x = 680$$

20. **108.** To find the score JaeH would need to average on her next 2 quizzes to bring her total average up to a 95:

$$\frac{90 + 95 + 88 + 84 + 92 + x + y}{7} = 95$$

$$449 + x + y = 665$$

$$x + y = 216$$

Note that it is not necessary to determine  $x$  and  $y$  individually. Since the two new quiz scores sum to 216, their average

$$\frac{216}{2} = 108$$

is 108.

21. **(B).** Since there are only three children and the range is from 2 to 13, one child must be 2, one must be 13, and the other child's age must fall somewhere in the middle.

If the average of the children's ages were 10, as in Quantity B, the sum of the three ages would be 30. Subtract 2 and 13 from 30 to get that the third child would need to be 15. This is not possible, because the middle child cannot be older than the 13-year-old. Since this age is too great, the true average age must be less, and Quantity B is greater.

Alternatively, since no two children are the same age, the middle child has a maximum age of 12. If that child were 12,

$$\frac{2 + 12 + 13}{3} = \frac{27}{3} = 9$$

the average age would be 9. Thus, the true average age must be 9 or less, and Quantity B is greater.



22.(D ).If 4 people have an average age of 18,then the sum of their ages is  $4 \times 18 = 72$ .Since the question is about range,try to minimize and maximize the range.Minimizing the range is easy — if everyone were exactly 18,the average age would be 18 and the range would be 0.So clearly,the range can be smaller than 25.

To maximize the range,make the oldest person the maximum age of 30,and see whether the youngest person could be just 1 year old while still obeying the other rules of the problem : the sum of the ages is 72 and,of course,no one can be a negative age.

One such set: 1,20,21,30

This is just one example that would work.In this case,the range is  $30 - 1 = 29$ ,which is greater than 25.

The correct answer is (D ).

23.(C ).If the average of the 5 numbers in Set A is 43,the sum of Set A is  $(5)(43) = 215$ .

For Quantity A ,use the Average Formula.Sum all 6 numbers,and divide by 6:

$$\frac{\text{sum of the 5 numbers in Set A} + x}{6} = 46$$

$$\frac{215 + x}{6} =$$

$$46 \quad 215 + x =$$

$$276 \quad x = 61$$

For Quantity B ,use the Average Formula again:

$$\frac{\text{sum of Set A} + \text{sum of Set B}}{10} =$$

$$52 \quad 215 + \text{sum of Set B} = 520$$

$$\text{sum of Set B} = 305$$

$$\frac{305}{5}$$

The average of the 5 numbers in Set B is thus  $5 = 61$ .

Alternatively,you could note that each set of 5 numbers has the same “weight” in the average of all 10 numbers.The average of Set A is 43,which is  $52 - 43 = 9$  below the average of all 10 numbers.The average of Set B must be 9 above the average of all 10 numbers:  $52 + 9 = 61$ .

$$\text{Average} = \frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms}}$$

24.(D ).Using the average formula,build three separate equations:

All 7 numbers:

$$12 = \frac{\text{Sum of all 7 numbers}}{7}$$

Sum of all 7 numbers = 84

The 4 smallest numbers:

$$8 = \frac{\text{Sum of the 4 smallest numbers}}{4}$$

Sum of the 4 smallest numbers = 32

The 4 greatest numbers:

$$20 = \frac{\text{Sum of the 4 greatest numbers}}{4}$$

Sum of the 4 greatest numbers = 80

There are only 7 numbers, yet information is given about the 4 smallest and the 4 greatest, which is a total of 8 numbers! The middle number has been counted twice—it is included in both the 4 greatest and the 4 smallest.

The sum of all 7 numbers is 84, but the sum of the 4 greatest and 4 smallest is  $80 + 32 = 112$ . The difference can only be attributed to the double counting of the middle number in the set of 7:  $112 - 84 = 28$ .

The middle number is 28, so subtract it from the sum of the 4 smallest numbers to get the sum of the 3 smallest numbers:  $32 - 28 = 4$ .

Now subtract the middle number from the sum of the 4 greatest numbers to get the sum of the 3 greatest numbers:  $80 - 28 = 52$ .

The difference between the sum of the 3 greatest numbers and the sum of the 3 smallest numbers is  $52 - 4 = 48$ .

25.(A). Since

$$\text{Average} = \frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms:}}$$

$$6 = \frac{a + b + c + 5 + 6}{5}$$

$$30 = a + b + c + 11$$

$$19 = a + b + c$$

It is not necessary, or possible, to determine the values of  $a, b$ , and  $c$  individually. The second average includes all three variables, so the values will be summed again anyway.

$$\text{Average} = \frac{a + b + c + 13}{4}$$

$$\text{Average} = \frac{19 + 13}{4}$$

$$\text{Average} = \frac{32}{4} = 8$$

26. **(E)**. There are two ways to solve this question. The first involves using the average formula:  $\text{Average} = \frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms}}$  or  $\text{Sum} = \text{Average} \times \text{Number of Terms}$ .

If the average of 8 numbers is 42, the sum of all 8 numbers =  $42 \times 8 = 336$ .

After removing one number, the new average of the remaining 7 numbers is 40. So, the sum of the remaining 7 numbers =  $40 \times 7 = 280$ .

The number that was removed accounts for the difference in these sums, so the number that was removed is  $336 - 280 = 56$ .

The number that was removed accounts for the difference in these sums, so the number that was removed is  $336 - 280 = 56$ .

The other way to solve the question is by using the concept of residuals, or differences from the average. A number was removed, and it caused the average of the remaining 7 numbers to drop by 2 (from 42 to 40). That requires a  $7 \times 2 = 14$  point drop in the sum. The removed number must be 14 more than the preexisting average. That would be  $42 + 14 = 56$ .

27. **(B)**.  $\text{Average} = \frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms}}$  or  $\text{Sum} = \text{Average} \times \text{Number of Terms}$ .

The average of 13 numbers is 70, so:

$$\text{Sum of all 13 terms} = 70 \times 13 = 910$$

The average of 10 of these numbers is 90, so:

$$\text{Sum of 10 of these numbers} = 90 \times 10 = 900$$

Subtract to find the sum of "the other 3 numbers":  $910 - 900 = 10$

$$\text{Average of the other 3 numbers} = \frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms}} = \frac{10}{3}$$

28.  **$\frac{4}{13}$  (or any equivalent fraction).**To find this weighted average,you must find the sum of all the radios in Towns A and B ,and divide by the total number of people in both towns:

$$\text{Average} = \frac{6,000(2) + 10,000(4)}{16,000}$$

Cancel three zeros from each term :

$$\text{Average} = \frac{6(2) + 10(4)}{16}$$

$$\text{Average} = \frac{52}{16}$$

$$\frac{13}{4}$$

This reduces to  $\frac{13}{4}$  ,although you are not required to reduce.

29.**(B )**.Average =  $\frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms}}$ .Set the unknown final test score as x for Joe and y for D ave.

Quantity A :

$$\frac{80 + 82 + 78 + 77 + 83 + x}{6}$$

82 =  
492 = 400 +  
x x = 92

Quantity B :

$$\frac{60 + 90 + 80 + y}{4}$$

82 =  
328 = 230 +  
y y = 98

30.**(B )**.Use the weighted average formula to get the ratio of Fiber X to Fiber Max:

$$\frac{0.55x + 0.70m}{x + m} = 0.65,$$

where x is the amount of Fiber X and m is the amount of Fiber Max.

This is not that different from the regular average formula— on the top,there is the total amount of fiber (55% of Fiber X and 70% of Fiber Max),which is divided by the total amount of cereal (x + m ) to get the average.Simplify by multiplying both sides by (x + m ):

$$0.55x + 0.70m = 0.65(x + m)$$

$$0.55x + 0.70m = 0.65x + 0.65m$$

If you wish, you can multiply both sides of the equation by 100 to eliminate all the decimals:

$$55x + 70m = 65x +$$

$$65m \quad 55x + 5m = 65x$$

$$5m = 10x$$

$$\frac{m}{x} = \frac{10}{5} = \frac{2}{1}$$

Since  $m$  and  $x$  are in a 2 to 1 ratio,  $2/3$  of the total is  $m$  and  $1/3$  of the total is  $x$ . Since the total is 12 ounces, Fiber X

accounts for  $\frac{1}{3}(12) = 4$  ounces of the mixed cereal.

One shortcut to this procedure is to note that the weighted average (65%) is 10% away from Fiber X's percent and 5% away from Fiber Max's percent. Since 10 is twice as much as 5, the ratio of the two cereals is 2 to 1. However, it is a 2 to 1 ratio of Fiber Max to Fiber X, not the reverse! Whichever number is closer to the weighted average (in this case, 70% is closer to 65%) gets the larger of the ratio parts. Since the ratio is 2 to 1 (Fiber Max to Fiber X), again,

$\frac{1}{3}(12) = 4$ .  
1/3 of the cereal is Fiber X and 2/3 is Fiber Max.

**31. 22,457.** There is a simple shortcut for a change to an average. The figure for 2009 was recorded as 22,478, but actually should have been recorded as 22,500. Thus, 22 people in that year were not counted. Thus, the sum should have been 22 higher when the average was originally calculated.

2000–2010, inclusive, is 11 years (subtract low from high and then add 1 to count an inclusive list of consecutive numbers). When taking an average, you divide the sum by the number of things being averaged (in this case, 11). So the shortcut is to take the change to the sum and “spread it out” over all of the values being averaged by dividing the change by the number of things being averaged.

Divide 22 by 11 to get 2. The average should have been 2 higher. Thus, the correct average for the 11 year period is 22,457.

Alternatively, the traditional method:  $22,455 \times 11$  years = 247,005, the sum of all 11 years' recorded populations. Add the 22 uncounted people: the corrected sum would be 247,027. Divide by 11 to get the real average: 22,457. (Note that while the traditional method is faster to explain, the shortcut is faster to actually execute!)

**32. I and II only.** This is a weighted average problem. Consider the statements individually:

I. TRUE. A cocktail made with one part Fine and Dandy and two parts Monster Smash will have a percent alcohol equal

$$\frac{6\% + 12\% + 12\%}{3} = \frac{30\%}{3} = 10\%$$

to the average of 6%, 12%, and 12%, or 10%. (Count the Monster Smash twice since the cocktail contains twice as much of it.)

II. **TRUE**. The 11.5 grams is irrelevant— all that matters is that equal amounts of each liquor were used, so there is no need to weight the average. Take an ordinary average of 4, 6, and 12 percent. The average is 7.333... %.

III. **FALSE**. To find the percent alcohol for a cocktail made with one part Delicate Flower (4% alcohol), two parts Fine and Dandy (6% alcohol) and one part mixer (0% alcohol), average 4, 6, 6, and 0. (Count the 6 twice since two parts Fine and Dandy went into the cocktail versus one part of each of the other components.) The average of 4, 6, 6, and 0 is 4. If you got this wrong, you may have ignored the 0% alcohol mixer. You cannot ignore the effect of a zero in an average— a zero can often lower an average considerably. Alternatively, note that none of the components of this cocktail have more than 6% alcohol. The resulting drink cannot have a greater concentration of alcohol than any of its components.

33. **(C)**. Sequence  $S$  is an evenly spaced set, which can be seen by plugging in a few  $n$  values:

$$S_1 = 3(1) + 3 = 6$$

$$S_2 = 3(2) + 3 = 9$$

$$S_3 = 3(3) + 3 = 12 \dots$$

Terms increase by three every time  $n$  increases by 1; this meets the definition of an evenly spaced set. For **ANY** evenly spaced set, the median equals the mean.

34. **112**. This is a weighted average problem. You **CANNOT** simply average 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, and 115. You must take into account how many times each number appears. The chart is really another way of writing:

110, 110, 110, 110

111, 111, 111

112, 112, 112, 112

113 114, 114

115, 115

In other words, the average temperature reading is really an average of 16 numbers. The easiest way to do this is:

$$\frac{4(110) + 3(111) + 4(112) + 1(113) + 2(114) + 2(115)}{16}$$

Use your calculator— the correct answer is 112.

35. **65**. This is a weighted average problem. You **CANNOT** simply average 62 and 70. You must take into account how many times each number appears (55 and 33 times, respectively). You are actually averaging 88 numbers:

$$\frac{55(62) + 33(70)}{88} =$$

Use your calculator. The correct answer is 65.

**36. I and II only.** In both sets, the numbers are evenly spaced. Moreover, both sets are evenly spaced by the same amount (adjacent terms increase by 2) and have the same number of terms (5 numbers in each set). The difference is that each term in Set B is 5 greater than the corresponding term in Set A (i.e.,  $6 - 1 = 5$ ,  $8 - 3 = 5$ , etc.)

In evenly spaced sets, the mean = median. Also, if an evenly spaced set has an odd number of numbers, the mean and median both equal the middle number. (When a set has an even number of numbers, the mean and median both equal the average of the 2 middle numbers).

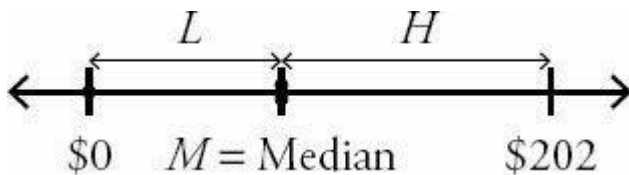
So, Set A has mean and median of 5 and Set B has mean/median = 10. Statement I and Statement II are true.

Since Sets A and B are equally spaced and have the same number of elements, their standard deviations are equal (that is, Set A is exactly as spread out from its own mean as Set B is from its own mean), so Statement III is false.

Since  $9 - 1 = 8$  and  $14 - 6 = 8$ , the ranges are equal and Statement IV is false.

**37. (D).** The pool of money is  $\$32 + \$72 + \$98 = \$202$ . After the redistribution, each person will have an amount between \$0 and \$202, inclusive. Call the amounts  $L$ ,  $M$ , and  $H$  (low, median, high). To maximize  $M$ , minimize  $L$  and  $H$ .

The minimum value for  $H$  is, in fact,  $M$ . The "highest" of the three values can actually be equal to the median (if  $H$  were lower than  $M$ , the term order and therefore which number is the median would change, but if  $H = M$ ,  $M$  can still be the median).



Minimum  $L = \$0$

Minimum  $H = M$

Maximum  $M = \text{Total pool of money} - \text{Minimum } L - \text{Minimum } H$

$M = \$202 - \$0 -$

$M$

$M = \$101$

The correct answer is (D).

**38. (B).** The chart provides the average and the number of product categories. If the incorrectly-calculated average was \$128 for the 4 categories, then the sum was  $4 \times 128 = \$512$ . Since the revenue for Pens was actually \$176, not \$164, the sum should have been \$12 higher. Thus, the correct sum is \$524. Divide by 4 to get \$131, the answer.

Alternatively, notice that the \$128 average given in the question stem actually does a lot of work for you. If \$164 jumps up to \$176, that's an increase of \$12. Distributed over the four categories, it will bring the overall average up by \$3, from \$128 to \$131.

**39. (C).** A set of 7 integers with a range of 2 and an average of 3 could consist of only these possibilities:

Example 1: 2, 2, 2, 3, 4, 4, 4

Exam ple 2:2,2,3,3,3,4,4

Exam ple 3:2,3,3,3,3,4

How ever,the m ode of the set m ust be 3 for this set.The m ode is the m ost com m on num ber in the set.Exam ple 1 has tw o m odes: 2 and 4,so Exam ple 1 is invalid for this question.O nly Exam ples 2 and 3 rem ain.

In both valid exam ples,the third and fifth num bers in each set are 3.The tw o quantities are equal.

40.(C ).The set begins 14,28,42,etc.How ever,the specific num bers— and even the num ber of elem ents— in the set are irrelevant,since the average equals the m edian for any evenly spaced set.C onsecutive m ultiples (in this case,of 14) are evenly spaced.

41.(C ).W rite “the average of  $3x$ , $x$ ,and  $y$  is equal to  $2x$ ” as an equation:

$$\frac{3x + x + y}{3} = 2x$$
$$4x + y = 6x$$
$$y = 2x$$

The tw o quantities are equal.

42.8,11,40.B ecause A verage =  $\frac{\text{Sum}}{\text{Number of Terms}}$ ,this question about averages depends both on  $x$ ,the total num ber of buildings on the block,and on the sum of the building ages.The 4 buildings that are 2 years old have a total age of  $4(2)$ ,and the  $(x - 4)$  other buildings have a total age of  $(x - 4)$ (no m ore than 80).

$$\text{Average age} = \frac{4(2) + (x - 4)(\text{no more than } 80)}{x}$$

H aving m any 80 year old buildings on the block w ould raise the average m uch closer to 80.(For instance,if there w ere a m illion 80-year-old buildings and four 2-year-old buildings,the average w ould be very close to 80 years old.) So,there is som e m inim um num ber of older buildings that could raise the average above 40.

Ignore the “greater than” 40 years old constraint on the average building age for a m om ent.W hat is the m inim um  $x$  needed to be to m ake the average age exactly 40 w hen the age of the other buildings is m axim ized at 80?

$$40x = 8 + (x - 4)$$
$$(80) 40x = 8 + 80x$$
$$- 320 -40x = -312$$
$$\frac{312}{40} = 7.8$$
$$x = 40$$

B ecause there can't be a partial building and the age of the buildings can't be greater than 80, $x$  m ust be at least 8 to bring the average age up over 40.(Y ou w ould need even m ore buildings to bring the average above 40 if those older buildings w ere only betw een 50 and 70 years old,for exam ple.)



Alternatively, test the answer choices. Try the first choice, 4 buildings. Since 4 of the buildings on the block are only 2 years old, this choice can't work—the average age of the buildings would be 2.

Try the second choice. With 6 total buildings, there would be four 2-year-old buildings, plus two others. To maximize the average age, maximize the ages of the two other buildings by making them both 80 years old.

$$\frac{4(2) + 2(80)}{6} = 28$$

Since the average is less than 40 years old, this choice is not correct.

Try the third choice. With 8 total buildings, there would be the four 2-year-old buildings, plus four others. To maximize the average age, maximize the ages of the four other buildings by making them each 80 years old:

$$\frac{4(2) + 4(80)}{8} = 41$$

Since the average age is greater than 40 years old, this choice is correct. Since the other, greater choices allow the possibility of even more 80-year-old buildings, increasing the average age further, those choices are also correct.

43. **\$5.** The average of four values is \$20. Thus, the sum of the four values is \$80. To determine the minimum contribution one student could have given, maximize the contributions of the other three students. If the three other students each gave the maximum of \$25, the fourth student would only have to give \$5 to make the sum equal to \$80.

44. **(A)** . If the average of 7 integers is 12, then their sum must be  $7 \times 12 = 84$ . To maximize the largest of the numbers, minimize the others.

The smallest number is -15. The integers are distinct (that is, different from each other), so the minimum values for the smallest 6 integers are -15, -14, -13, -12, -11, and -10. To find the maximum value for the 7th integer, sum -15, -14, -13, -12, -11, -10, and  $x$ , while setting that sum equal to 84:

$$\begin{aligned} -15 + (-14) + (-13) + (-12) + (-11) + (-10) + x &= \\ 84 - 75 + x &= 84 \\ x &= 159 \end{aligned}$$

Quantity A is greater.

45. **(C)** . In an evenly spaced set, the middle number is also the average. Numbers equally spaced on opposite sides of the middle will also average to the average of the whole set. Thus, the answer is (C). Here is the set written out, with the median underlined:

$$3 \quad 6 \quad 9 \quad 12 \quad \underline{15} \quad 18 \quad 21 \quad 24 \quad 27$$

In an evenly spaced set, the median is equal to the average. Thus, 15 is the average. It is also the case that 12 and 18 average to 15. So do 9 and 21. So do 6 and 24. And so do 3 and 27.

Both quantities are equal to 15.

46. **95.** In any evenly spaced set, the average equals the median. Thus, 88 is the middle number in the set. Since the set has 15 elements, the 8th element is the middle one.

Lowest 7 integers:	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
Middle integers:	88						
Greatest 7 integers:	89	90	91	92	93	94	95

The largest integer in the list is 95. If you were confident about the process, you could skip listing the integers. Instead you could reason that to go from 8th integer to the 15th integer, you must add 7:  $88 + 7 = 95$ .

47. **(D)**. If the average of 5 integers is 10, their sum must be 50. The range is given as 10. Try to make two examples where this is true, but where the medians are as different as possible.

Example 1: 5, 10, 10, 10, 15

In this case, Quantity A is equal to Quantity B.

Is there a list such that the average is still 10 and the range is still 10, but the median is something else? Try adjusting the three middle numbers while keeping 5 as the least integer and 15 as the greatest integer. To adjust the numbers without disturbing the average, anything you subtract from one number should be added to another number, so the sum stays constant.

Example 2: 5, 6, 12, 12, 15

Here, 4 was subtracted from the second term, and then 2 was added to each of the third and fourth terms. The average and range still each equal 10, but now the median is 12. The answer is **(D)**.

48. **(D)**. If the set has an odd number of terms, then the median is the middle number. So, the middle number is 4.4. The set has a range of 2. The other two numbers could be 2 apart and also equally distributed around 4.4:

Example 1: 3.4, 4.4, 5.4

Here, the two quantities are equal.

Or, the two other numbers could be 2 apart but both a bit higher, or both a bit lower.

Example 2: 4.3, 4.4, 6.3

Example 3: 2.5, 4.4, 4.5

Thus, Quantity A could be equal to, less than, or greater than Quantity B. The correct answer is **(D)**.